

§ 250.312

capacity of 200 ml. or more except where expressly applied to liquor bottles of less than 200 ml. capacity.

[T.D. 6954, 33 FR 6818, May 4, 1968. Redesignated at 40 FR 16835, Apr. 15, 1975, and amended by T.D. ATF-34, 41 FR 46864, Oct. 26, 1976]

§ 250.312 Standards of fill.

Distilled spirits brought into the United States from Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands in containers of 1 gallon (3.785 liters) or less for sale shall be in liquor bottles, including liquor bottles of less than 200 ml capacity, which conform to the applicable standards of fill provided in § 5.47 or § 5.47a of this chapter. Empty liquor bottles, including liquor bottles of less than 200 ml capacity, which conform to the provisions of subpart E of part 5 or part 19 of this chapter, may be brought into the United States for packaging distilled spirits as provided in part 19 of this chapter.

[T.D. ATF-34, 41 FR 46864, Oct. 26, 1976, as amended by T.D. ATF-62, 44 FR 71718, Dec. 11, 1979]

§ 250.314 Distinctive liquor bottles.

(a) *Application.* Liquor bottles of distinctive shape or design, including bottles of less than 200 ml. capacity, may be brought into the United States from Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands by an importer (filled bottles) or a bottler (empty bottles). For filled bottles, the importer shall submit ATF Form 5100.31 to the Director for approval prior to bringing such bottles into the United States. For empty bottles, the bottler shall obtain approval from the Director on ATF Form 5100.31 prior to using the bottles. The importer or bottler, as applicable, shall certify as to the total capacity of a representative sample bottle before closure (expressed in milliliters) on each copy of the form. In addition, the applicant shall affix a readily legible photograph (both front and back of the bottle) to the front of each copy of ATF Form 5100.31, along with the label(s) to be used on the bottle. The applicant shall not submit an actual bottle or an authentic model unless specifically requested to do so.

(b) *Approval.* Properly submitted ATF Forms 5100.31 to bring distinctive liquor bottles (filled) into the United

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States from Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands, or, properly submitted ATF Forms 5100.31 to use distinctive liquor bottles (empty) which have been brought into the United States from Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands, shall be approved provided such bottles are found by the Director to—

(1) Meet the requirements of 27 CFR Part 5;

(2) Be distinctive;

(3) Be suitable for their intended purpose;

(4) Not jeopardize the revenue; and

(5) Not be deceptive to the consumer.

The applicant shall keep a copy of the approved ATF Form 5100.31, including an approved photograph (both front and back) of the distinctive liquor bottle, on file at his premises. If ATF Form 5100.31 is disapproved, the applicant shall be notified of the Director's decision and the reasons therefor. The applicant importer is responsible for furnishing a copy of the approved ATF Form 5100.31, including a photograph of the distinctive liquor bottle, to Customs officials at each affected port of entry where the merchandise is examined.

(Sec. 201, Pub. L. 85-859, 72 Stat. 1374, as amended (26 U.S.C. 5301))

[T.D. ATF-114, 47 FR 43950, Oct. 5, 1982, as amended by T.D. ATF-242, 51 FR 39526, Oct. 29, 1986]

§ 250.315 [Reserved]

§ 250.316 Bottles not constituting approved containers.

The Director is authorized to disapprove any bottle, including a bottle of less than 200 ml. capacity, for use as a liquor bottle which he determines to be deceptive. The Customs officer at the port of entry shall deny entry of any such bottle containing distilled spirits upon advice from the Director that such bottle is not an approved container for distilled spirits for consumption in the United States.

(Sec. 201, Pub. L. 85-859, 72 Stat. 1374, as amended (26 U.S.C. 5301))

[T.D. ATF-114, 47 FR 43950, Oct. 5, 1982]

§ 250.317 Bottles to be used for display purposes.

Empty liquor bottles may be brought into the United States and may be furnished to liquor dealers for display purposes, provided each bottle is marked to show that it is to be used for such purpose. Any paper strip used to seal the bottle shall be of solid color and without design or printing, except that a border or a design, formed entirely of the legend "not genuine—for display purposes only" is permissible. Records shall be kept of the receipt and disposition of such bottles, showing the names and addresses of consignees, dates of shipment, and size, quantity, and description of bottles.

§ 250.318 Liquor bottles denied entry.

Filled liquor bottles not conforming to the provisions of this subpart shall be denied entry into the United States: *Provided*, That, upon letterhead application, in triplicate, the regional director (compliance) of the region in which the port of entry is situated may, in nonrecurring cases, authorize the release from customs custody of distilled spirits in bottles, except those coming under the provisions of § 250.316, which, through unintentional error, do not conform to the provisions of this subpart, if he finds that such release will not afford jeopardy to the revenue.

§ 250.319 Used liquor bottles.

The Director may pursuant to letterhead application filed in triplicate, authorize an importer to receive liquor bottles assembled for him as provided in § 194.263 of this chapter. Used liquor bottles so received may be stored at any suitable location pending return to Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands. Records shall be kept of the receipt and disposition of such bottles.

[T.D. 6954, 33 FR 6818, May 4, 1968, as amended by T.D. 7006, 34 FR 2250, Feb. 15, 1969. Redesignated at 40 FR 16835, Apr. 15, 1975]

Subpart Q—Miscellaneous Provisions**§ 250.331 Alternate methods or procedures.**

(a) *Application*. A person bringing liquors into the United States from Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands who desires to use an alternate method or procedure in lieu of a method or procedure prescribed by this part shall file application, in triplicate, with the regional director (compliance) of the region in which his place of business is located. If such person has several places of business at which he desires to use such alternate method or procedure, a separate application shall be submitted for each. Each application shall:

- (1) Specify the name, address, and permit number of the person to which it relates;
- (2) State the purpose for which filed; and
- (3) Specifically describe the alternate method or procedure and set forth the reasons therefor.

No alternate method or procedure relating to the assessment, payment, or collection of tax shall be authorized under this paragraph.

(b) *Approval*. When an application for use of an alternate method or procedure is received, the regional director (compliance) shall determine whether the approval thereof would unduly hinder the effective administration of this part or would result in jeopardy to the revenue. The regional director (compliance) shall forward two copies of the application to the Director, together with a report of his findings and his recommendation. The Director, may approve the alternate method or procedure if he finds that:

- (1) Good cause has been shown for the use of the alternate method or procedure;
- (2) The alternate method or procedure is within the purpose of, and consistent with the effect intended by, the